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CHESTER RURAL DISTRICT

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR



*For the year 1960*

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W. J. BIRCHALL,  
M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

H. E. STONE,  
M.A.P.H.I.



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Medical Officer of Health  
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CHESTER RURAL DISTRICT  
*For the Year 1960*

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL—

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the Chester Rural District for the year 1960.

The National Vital Statistics show a small increase in the Birth Rate, and a slight decrease in the general Death and Infant Mortality Rates. The latter is again the lowest ever recorded in this country.

The local Vital Statistics show a small increase in the Birth and Infant Mortality rates, and a slight decline in the general Death Rate.

Measles (163 cases) and Whooping Cough (27 cases) were the most prevalent infectious diseases notified.

Perusal of the Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector again shows the wide range of services operated by the Health Department on behalf of the public in the Rural District.

In the Autumn of 1960, a new Public Health Laboratory was opened at the City Hospital, and this is a great convenience to the Health Department for the Bacteriological examination of a large variety of specimens, including water, milk, etc., these specimens were previously sent all the way to Birkenhead for examination.

As an appendix, I have, as usual, included my Annual Report as Divisional Medical Officer, on the Public Health Services operating on behalf of the Cheshire County Council in the South West Cheshire Division, of which the Rural District of Chester forms part.

My thanks are again due to the Chief Public Health Inspector and the Staff of the Health Department for their help and co-operation throughout the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

W. J. BIRCHALL, M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

## NATIONAL STATISTICS

The Birth Rate for England and Wales for 1960 was 17.1 per 1,000 population, compared with 16.5 for 1959.

The Death Rate for England and Wales for 1960 was 11.5 per 1,000 population. The Rate for 1959 was 11.6.

The Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales, i.e. Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births was 21.7, the rate for 1959 was 22.0; and it was again the lowest ever recorded in this country.

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## CHESTER RURAL DISTRICT

### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

#### SECTION A:

Area: 43,811 acres.

Population Mid-1960 ....	28,250
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1960) according to Rate Books ....	7,969
Number of houses built in 1960 (by Private Enterprise 255, by Local Authority 19) ....	274
Rateable Value at 1st April, 1960 ....	£496,566
Product of 1d. Rate at 1st April, 1960 ....	2,139

The Chief Industry of the District is Dairy Farming.

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### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1960

#### Births

Live Births	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Legitimate ....	220	211	431
Illegitimate ....	8	3	11
Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated civilian population: 15.64.			

Using Comparability factor of 1.17 the adjusted Birth Rate is 18.3.

Still Births	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Legitimate ....	3	2	5
Illegitimate ....	—	—	—
Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still) Births: 11.2.			

Total Live and Still Births: 447.

#### Deaths

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
	159	218	377

Death Rate per 1,000 population: 13.34. By use of a Comparability factor of .80, the adjusted Death Rate is 10.67.

Deaths (due to maternal causes):

Pregnancy—Childbirth ..... Nil  
 Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births Nil

Deaths of infants under one year:

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Legitimate .....	3	4	7
Illegitimate .....	—	—	—
Infant Mortality Rate, i.e., per 1,000 live births: 15.8.			

Deaths of Infants under four weeks of age (Neo-natal deaths):

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Legitimate .....	2	3	5
Illegitimate .....	—	—	—
Neo-natal Mortality Rate: 11.3.			

Deaths of infants under one week of age:

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Legitimate .....	1	3	4
Illegitimate .....	—	—	—

Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births): 9.05.

Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under one week per 1,000 total live and still births): 20.1.

Illegitimate live births as a percentage of total live births: 2.5 per cent.

The natural increase in population (that is, excess of births over deaths) is shown in the following tables:

NAT. INC. PER 1,000			NAT. INC. PER 1,000		
YEAR	POP.	POP.	YEAR	POP.	POP.
1949 .....	20,330	3.7	1955 .....	26,810	—1.35
1950 .....	23,610	5.16	1956 .....	27,680	—1.15
1951 .....	25,590	4.14	1957 .....	27,740	—1.26
1952 .....	25,580	2.8	1958 .....	27,380	—0.04
1953 .....	26,250	0.45	1959 .....	27,840	2.11
1954 .....	26,790	—0.5	1960 .....	28,250	2.3

The natural increase in population (that is excess of births over deaths) 1949-1960) (England and Wales):

PER 1,000		PER 1,000	
YEAR	POP.	YEAR	POP.
1949 .....	5.0	1955 .....	3.3
1950 .....	4.2	1956 .....	4.0
1951 .....	3.0	1957 .....	4.6
1952 .....	4.0	1958 .....	4.7
1953 .....	4.1	1959 .....	4.9
1954 .....	3.9	1960 .....	5.6

Table of number of Live Births and Birth Rates (1949-1960):

				BIRTH						BIRTH	
YEAR				NUMBER	RATE	YEAR				NUMBER	RATE
1949	....	....	....	303	14.9	1955	....	....	....	365	13.61
1950	....	....	....	322	13.6	1956	....	....	....	429	15.5
1951	....	....	....	315	12.31	1957	....	....	....	357	12.8
1952	....	....	....	293	11.45	1958	....	....	....	416	15.19
1953	....	....	....	348	13.25	1959	....	....	....	425	15.26
1954	....	....	....	343	12.80	1960	....	....	....	442	15.64

Table of number of Deaths and Crude Death Rates (1949-1960):

				DEATH						DEATH	
YEAR				NUMBER	RATE	YEAR				NUMBER	RATE
1949	....	....	....	227	11.2	1955	....	....	....	401	14.96
1950	....	....	....	200	8.5	1956	....	....	....	461	16.65
1951	....	....	....	209	8.17	1957	....	....	....	390	14.06
1952	....	....	....	222	8.68	1958	....	....	....	420	15.23
1953	....	....	....	337	12.8	1959	....	....	....	366	13.15
1954	....	....	....	356	13.3	1960	....	....	....	377	13.34

Table of Infant Mortality (1949-1960):

				RATE						RATE	
				PER 1,000						PER 1,000	
YEAR				NUMBER	BIRTHS	YEAR				NUMBER	BIRTHS
1949	....	....	....	1	3.3	1955	....	....	....	5	13.7
1950	....	....	....	6	18.6	1956	....	....	....	5	11.65
1951	....	....	....	11	34.9	1957	....	....	....	8	22.4
1952	....	....	....	8	27.3	1958	....	....	....	7	16.8
1953	....	....	....	10	28.7	1959	....	....	....	8	18.8
1954	....	....	....	4	11.7	1960	....	....	....	7	15.8

Deaths from Measles (all ages) .... Nil

Deaths from Whooping Cough .... Nil

Particulars of unusual or excessive mortality during the year:

				FE-		IN	
				MALE	MALE	TOTAL	1959
(i)	Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory						
	System	....	....	55	80	135	134
(ii)	Cancer	....	....	20	42	62	56
(iii)	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System			17	33	50	60
(iv)	Cancer of Lungs (included in (ii)						
	above	....	....	9	3	12	12
(v)	Coronary Disease of Heart (included						
	in (i) above	....	....	36	25	61	49

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1960	MALE	FEMALE
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ....	—	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis ....	1	—
Other Infective or Parasitic Diseases ....	—	1
Cancer (all sites) ....	20	42
Leukaemia ....	1	—
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ....	17	33
Diseases of Heart and Circulatory System ....	55	80
Bronchitis ....	11	9
Pneumonia ....	14	18
Influenza ....	1	3
Other Diseases of Respiratory System ....	3	—
Ulcer of Stomach ....	3	1
Enteritis or Diarrhoea ....	1	2
Nephritis ....	1	—
Diabetes ....	1	2
Pregnancy and Childbirth ....	—	—
Congenital Malformations ....	3	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate ....	1	—
Suicide ....	—	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents ....	9	—
All other Accidents ....	5	5
All other Causes ....	12	18
Homicide and operations of War ....	—	1
	<hr/> 159	<hr/> 218

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

### Public Health Officers in Chester Rural District

#### SECTION B

##### Medical Officer of Health

W. J. Birchall, M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Office:—16, White Friars, Chester. Tel.: Chester 20071.

##### Chief Public Health Inspector, Cleansing Superintendent and Meat Inspector

H. E. Stone, M.A.P.H.I., R.S.I., and Joint Board Certificate for Sanitary Inspectors, Liverpool University Certificate for Sanitary Knowledge and Meat and other Foods, Cambridge University Certificates.

##### Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

J. G. Wilkes, R.S.I., and Joint Certificate for Sanitary Inspector, Meat and other Foods, Liverpool University Certificate for Sanitary Knowledge and Meat and other Foods.



## **Additional Public Health Inspector**

E. Clarkson, M.A.P.H.I., R.S.I., and Joint Board Certificate for Sanitary Inspectors, R.S.I. Meat and other Foods, Liverpool University Certificate for Sanitary Knowledge and Meat and other Foods, Liverpool University Certificate for Smoke Abatement and Fuel Economy.

## **Pupil Public Health Inspectors**

M. Coppack and P. R. Atkin, the latter transferred to the Chester City Public Health Department in October.

## **Clerk/Typists**

Miss V. Bushell.  
Miss S. Latham.

### **(a) Laboratory Facilities**

The Regional Laboratory Service under Ministry of Health is available at Chester for free examination of Bacteriological Specimens.

The Services of the Pathological Department, Chester Royal Infirmary, are utilised for Chemical Examinations.

### **(b) Ambulance Facilities**

Infectious Diseases are removed to Clatterbridge Isolation Hospital by the Cheshire County Council Ambulances, assisted by the Chester City Ambulances acting as an Agency Service. Accident and Sick cases are also removed to hospitals in Chester, Clatterbridge and Liverpool by the County and City Ambulances. There are no special Ambulances for Infectious cases, with the exception of Smallpox.

### **(c) Nursing in the Home**

Home Nursing in the Rural District is undertaken by District Nurses working under the direction of the Cheshire County Council, which is the Local Health Authority.

**(d) Treatment Centres and Clinics** including Clinics solely for diagnosis or consultation. The County Council Clinics are available for residents in this area at:—

Christleton: Infant Welfare.

Upton: Infant Welfare Clinic.

Saughall: Infant Welfare Clinic.

Barrow: Infant Welfare Clinic.

Huntington: Infant Welfare Clinic.

Chester: Orthopaedic and Tuberculosis.



### (e) Hospitals

The General Hospitals at Chester, Clatterbridge and Liverpool are available for residents in the district as well as Special Treatment Centres in Chester and Liverpool. There is in addition a special Hospital at Barrow for the treatment of Tuberculosis.

## SECTION 47, NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT

The provisions of the above Act enable a Local Authority to apply for the compulsory removal to a hospital or County Council Hostel of aged and infirm persons who are in need of care and attention, and are unable to care for themselves. Much time and patience is devoted to the needs of the aged by a variety of health workers, and every effort is made to avoid compulsory removal of aged persons from their homes to hostels and hospitals. It is satisfactory to note that a number of aged persons in need of care and attention were visited and in no case was it necessary to apply for compulsory removal in 1960.

### BRUCELLA ABORTUS INFECTION

With the steady decline of Tuberculosis in cattle, associated with the introduction of designated milks, namely Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised, etc., increasing attention is being paid to infection of cattle with *Brucella Abortus*, and the possibility of infection of human beings with milk that has not been pasteurised. In the Autumn of 1960 it was reported that 3 people in the village of Mollington were suffering from infection with *Brucella Abortus* thought to be contracted through drinking infected milk that had not been pasteurised. Investigation of a neighbouring dairy farm with 40 head of cattle revealed positive culture in 2 cows and suspicious results in 8.

The farmer was most co-operative and agreed to the voluntary segregation of the suspected cattle and the pasteurisation of the milk from these cows, until further tests were clear.

What is the incidence of human *Brucella Abortus* Infection in the general population? It is not known, as the disease is not officially notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health.

It would appear that in spite of widespread inoculation of calves with vaccine, there is a fairly wide distribution of Infection in cattle as shown in the bacteriological examination of different samples of milk.

Two measures that would readily solve the immediate problem, would be the compulsory pasteurisation of all milk sold for human consumption, and secondly the prevention of the sale in the open market of cattle known to be infected.

Until the extent of human infection is accurately known, it is perhaps premature to suggest such strong measures at present.

# ANNUAL REPORT, 1960

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THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS,  
THE CHESTER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with pleasure I present my thirtieth annual report on the work of the department.

Once again the department has been paid the compliment of the election of a Lady Councillor as its Chairman, and for all of us in the department it has again been a most pleasurable experience.

The most important legislation introduced during 1960 affecting the department was the Caravan Sites Control and Development Act, 1960. Part One covers the licensing of sites to regulate their establishment and operation, whilst Part Two amends the provisions for the enforcement of planning control as contained in Part iii of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947.

Other Acts passed were the Noise Abatement Act, which sets out provisions in respect of the control of noise and vibration with a view to their abatement. There was also the Public Health Laboratory Service Act, 1960, which does not come into force until a date to be appointed by the Minister of Health, and the Meat (Staining and Sterilisation) Regulations, 1960, governing the disposal of condemned meat and offal.

Further legislation introduced was the Clean Rivers (Estuaries and Tidal Waters) Act which gives River Boards power to deal with new outlets and new discharges of trade or sewage effluents into tidal waters or parts of the sea; also the Radio Active Substances Act, 1960, which mainly concerns the registration of users of radio active material and mobile radio active apparatus with the Minister of Housing and Local Government, who in turn will consult with the appropriate local authorities and River Boards.

Whilst, unfortunately, it has been necessary to slow down your housing programme, demand continues to be met in part by private enterprise development.

The Rodent Control service is now operating smoothly, the new operator having settled into the area quite satisfactorily.

The Refuse Collection and Disposal Service is still functioning under difficulties with regard to man power, but only a few complaints have been received with regard to irregular collections. This service suffered an administration set-back by the premature retirement, on health grounds, of the Foreman, Mr. S. D. Meakin, who had served the Council faithfully and well for 27 years, was

a veritable hive of information and a most willing and conscientious workman. As a matter of expediency you appointed your Charge-hand, Mr. J. Emmett, to Foreman.

Your Inspectors have continued to give loyal and conscientious service to the department, and I am very grateful for their support; also to your Treasurer, Architect and Building Surveyor for their continued co-operation, and last, but by no means least, your Clerk, who is always available and very helpful in determining legal queries which arise from time to time.

Before concluding this introduction to my report, I wish to express a sincere "Thank You" to the Lady Chairman and all the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Public Health Committee for their confidence in me and the department which has ensured a happy association.

I am, Mr. Chairman,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. EWART STONE, M.A.P.H.I.,

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

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## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### Water Supply

Nothing has occurred during the past year to alter the circumstances governing the water supply in the Parishes comprising your district. Croughton is the only inhabited Parish without a piped mains supply where wells are the sources, and which continue to afford a satisfactory supply; though I would prefer to know that a piped mains supply was available; but owing to its situation and lack of population, estimated at 33, it would be a very expensive scheme to adopt.

There are three Water Undertakings which supply your area, the Chester Waterworks Company, the West Cheshire Water Board and the Wrexham and East Denbighshire Water Board.

The Chester Waterworks Company obtain their supply from two sources; the River Dee by pumping, settlement, and filtration combined with Chlorination, and from the deep borehole at Plemstall, this latter is a very hard but pure and wholesome which does not require any treatment.

The West Cheshire Water Board obtain their supply from a series of boreholes which is also hard but pure, coupled with extraction from the River Dee.

The Wrexham and East Denbighshire Water Board obtain their supply from upland sources which is filtered and chlorinated.

It is interesting to note that in connection with their Trewern Valley scheme the Liverpool Corporation are in the midst of a very large undertaking, with Pumping Plant and Impounding Reservoirs on the banks of the River Dee at Huntington, and the water will be conveyed through 5 feet diameter pipes.

As is the usual practice, samples are taken from points off the mains of the various suppliers and submitted for bacteriological and chemical analysis; the reports on all of which have proved quite satisfactory. The following are copies of analyses taken during the year.

Copy of Chemical Analysis of water ex The Chester Waterworks Company's main:

Laboratory: Assay Office,  
Goss Street,  
Chester, 22nd April, 1960.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

In parts per million of water:	
Total solid matter in solution ....	180.0
Nitrogen in Nitrates ....	1.25
Chlorine in Chlorides ....	21.0
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 4 hours at 80 deg. F. ....	0.68
Free and Saline Ammonia ....	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia ....	0.05
Lead, Copper, Zinc ....	Nil
Microscopical examination of the sediment ....	Nil
Temporary Hardness ....	50.0
Permanent Hardness ....	30.0
pH Value ....	7.4
The above chemical analysis is satisfactory.	
This is a moderately soft water.	

(Signed) HAROLD LOWE, M.Sc., F.R.I.C.  
PUBLIC ANALYST.

Copy of Chemical Analysis of Water ex The Chester Waterworks Company's Artesian Well at Plemstall:

Laboratory: Assay Office,  
Goss Street,  
Chester, 6th April, 1960.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

In parts per million of water:

Total solid matter in solution	360.0
Nitrogen in Nitrates	0.38
Chlorine in Chlorides	39.0
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 4 hours at 80 deg. F	0.08
Free and Saline Ammonia	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.02
Lead, Copper, Zinc	Nil
Microscopical Examination of the Sediment	Nil
Temporary Hardness	230.0
Permanent Hardness	22.0
pH. Value	7.4

The above Chemical Analysis is satisfactory.  
The water is a Hard one.

(Signed) HAROLD LOWE, M.SC., F.R.I.C.  
PUBLIC ANALYST.

The following tabulation gives details of the number of houses in the various Parishes and estimated population supplied from the mains of the various undertakings.

PARISH	NO. OF DWELLINGS	EST. POP. SUPPLIED
Aldford	93	352
Bache	28	98
Backford	51	179
Barrow	290	1086
Bridge Trafford	11	39
Buerton	17	54
Capenhurst	107	400
Caughall	3	11
Chester Castle	1	3
Chorlton-by-Backford	31	116
Christleton	653	2448



PARISH	NO. OF DWELLINGS	EST. POP. SUPPLIED
Churton Heath ....	5	17
Claverton ....	—	—
Croughton ....	10	—
Dodleston ....	128	480
Dunham-on-the-Hill ....	186	697
Eaton ....	22	83
Eccleston ....	89	335
Elton ....	152	569
Great Boughton ....	1402	5190
Guilden Sutton ....	227	850
Hapsford ....	35	131
Hoole Village ....	99	371
Huntington ....	425	2794
Lea-by-Backford ....	62	232
Lea Newbold ....	6	22
Ledsham ....	41	153
Littleton ....	180	674
Little Stanney ....	82	307
Lower Kinnerton ....	38	144
Marlston-cum-Lache ....	30	116
Mickle Trafford ....	135	492
Mollington ....	155	580
Moston ....	82	857
Picton ....	23	87
Poulton ....	32	120
Puddington ....	108	405
Pulford ....	92	344
Rowton ....	107	381
Saighton ....	84	315
Saughall ....	656	2450
Shotwick ....	20	73
Shotwick Park ....	21	74
Stoak ....	41	154
Thornton-le-Moors ....	41	154
Upton-by-Chester ....	1803	6600
Wervin ....	29	106
Wimbolds Trafford ....	32	118
Woodbank ....	24	90
	<hr/> 7987 <hr/>	<hr/> 31051 <hr/>

### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

This year the picture appears a little brighter: preliminary steps have been taken towards the provision of two sewerage schemes, the first for the Parish of Elton, for which instructions have been given to your Consulting Engineers, and the other which covers part of the Parish of Saughall and the Parishes of

Mollington and Lea-by-Backford. The next parishes to be dealt with are those of Mickle Trafford and Guilden Sutton, which may possibly be served by a joint scheme.

Your Consulting Engineers are Messrs. C. J. Lomax and Son, of Manchester, in conjunction with Messrs. Williams and Clarke of this City.

It is most disappointing that the Moor Lane and Whitchurch Road scheme at Rowton has not yet commenced. No doubt, our neighbouring authority, who undertook responsibility for this work, have had to contend with many problems, but I hope to hear at an early date that the scheme has been put in hand. With its completion another source of pollution should be eliminated.

In spite of what has been decided in the past, I must again draw attention to the unsatisfactory drainage disposal for properties in the Rake Lane—Plough Lane—Brown Heath area of Christleton. It is my opinion that a definite scheme should be promoted for this area, for the longer it is delayed the more costly it will be, zoning or no zoning.

During 1960, 514 yards of new sewers were adopted, making a total of 44 miles, 1,004 yards of public sewers in your district.

### **Cesspool Emptyer**

The services of this vehicle have been requested on 179 occasions, and in addition, regular collections of night soil have been carried out in the Pipers Ash area of Great Boughton pending the completion of Closet conversions, and a few special cases in Guilden Sutton.

There have been occasions during the year, when owing to sickness and breakdown it has been off the road. The two men employed on it seem to have settled in to the work in spite of its unsavouriness. You have also decided to purchase a replacement vehicle in the ensuing financial year.

### **Drain and Sewer Tests**

During the year 270 tests have been carried out, comprised of 205 tests of drains connected to sewers and 21 tests to drains discharging to septic tanks, and 44 re-visits.

### **Rivers and Streams**

As you are well aware, the maintenance of water courses is the responsibility of the various River Boards. From time to time complaints are received of polluted ditches, which are investigated, and any action found necessary is taken to keep them in a free flowing state.

### **Public Cleansing Service**

Collection. There are two 16/18 cu. yds. capacity rear loading vehicles of the dual tipping type, one 10 cu. yds. capacity side loading vehicle and two 7 cu. yds. capacity side loading vehicles



employed in your fleet of 5 vehicles which are in daily use, whilst one 7 cu. yds. capacity side loading vehicle is maintained as a spare in cases of emergency. A new dual tipping 16/18 cu. yds. capacity vehicle was not delivered till towards the end of December and was not put into commission this year. One old vehicle was disposed of, but in view of the unrealistic offers received for the other old vehicle, this was retained for "spares" value.

**Disposal** is by means of Controlled Tipping at the old clay pit at Hoole Village, where the loads are dealt with by the Fordson Muledozer. Contrary to expectations, and doubtless due to the heavy and almost continuous rains experienced, the tip has consolidated more rapidly, and its life has been extended probably for a further twelve months; but this has not solved the problem of disposal, and you have had to make a short term agreement to tip your refuse outside your own district on agreed terms. It is anticipated that the South part of your district collections will be deposited at this new site, commencing with 1st April, 1961.

As and when the Hoole Village tip is finally closed to tipping, it cannot be written off as "finished", as there is an obligation to have it levelled off and then blinded with 9 inches of top soil.

**Personnel.**

It is becoming increasingly difficult to maintain full teams for each collection area. There is no doubt that in this district labour is at a premium and one cannot pick and choose, consequently one has to make do with what labour is available, which leads to frequent changes and little satisfaction.

At the end of the year the personnel comprised 1 Foreman/Charge-hand, 8 Drivers, 20 Collectors, 1 Tip Controller and 1 Waste Paper Baler. It seems almost unbelievable that out of a total staff of 30 for this service there have been no fewer than 71 changes. In view of this fact it is no wonder that the service becomes a little chaotic at times, but on the whole it has been well maintained, for which your new Foreman/Charge-hand should receive due credit.

## **General**

The whole of your district continues to receive a regular service, which in some few instances has not been maintained on a weekly basis, though collection periods have not exceeded two weeks.

At the beginning of the year there were 7,662 premises which received regular collections, these steadily increased to 7,987, and the cost of the service amounted to approximately £27,370/0/0. The vehicles covered an estimated 47,000 miles, using 3,600 gallons of petrol and 2,400 gallons diesel oil, to collect an estimated

9,375 tons of household refuse in 3,547 loads. From these figures the following costs are arrived at:

	£	s.	d.
Per ton ....	2	18	5
Per load ....	7	14	4
Per mile ....	11	8	
Per gallon ....	4	11	4
Per house ....	3	11	3 per annum
			1 4¼ per week

**Salvage** has been continued throughout the year and has yielded £2,421/7/6 for a total tonnage of 311 tons 1 cwt. and 19 lbs., made up as follows:

CLASSIFICATION	T.	CWTS.	QRS.	LBS.	£	s.	d.
Cardboard ....	28	19	3	—	173	18	10
Mixed Waste Paper ....	141	15	—	8	710	15	5
Textiles ....	21	19	2	11	404	7	7
Ferrous Metals ....	15	3	—	—	90	18	0
Non-ferrous Metals....	7	16	—	15	808	6	4
Domestic Tins ....	93	8	—	—	206	15	10
Miscellaneous ....	1	19	2	13	26	5	6
Totals ....	311	1	—	19	£2421	7	6

Appreciation continues to be expressed by all the outdoor staff for your continued payment to them of the quarterly bonus.

### **Shops and Licenced Premises**

On your registers there are 81 shops, 14 Cafes and 38 Licensed premises and Guest Houses. Inspections are carried out at irregular intervals, and it gives satisfaction to record that the standard of cleanliness and hygiene is well maintained.

### **Food Preparation**

Under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, section 16 requires that certain premises used for the "preparation or manufacture of sausages, or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale" shall be registered with the local authority, and there are 13 such premises now on your register which are kept under observation, and in connection with which it has been necessary to serve 15 informal notices under the Hygiene Regulations.

### **Clean Air**

Once again it has not been necessary to take statutory action under the terms of the Clean Air Act, 1956, though certain premises have been kept under observation.

### **Swimming Baths and Pools**

There are not any public or privately owned swimming baths or pools in your area.

## Factories, Workshops and Workplaces

There are 73 such premises on your register.

## Rodent Control

There are two Operatives employed in this service, both of whom have been provided with a small van, and who keep the district under close inspection, and as a result infestations are not so numerous.

During the year you entered into 41 Contracts, which expire on 31st March next; these are regularly inspected and treated, and the contractees have expressed their satisfaction with the service.

The following summary, whilst it does not truly reflect the time and patience put into the service by your Operatives, serves to indicate how the time is occupied.

Number of visits made to:

Private Dwellings ....	2499
Agricultural Premises ....	621
Business Premises ....	723
Contracts ....	663
Local Authority ....	273
<hr/>	
Total ....	4779
Re-visits ....	269
<hr/>	
Grand Total ....	5048
<hr/>	

and a total of 7,756 poison baits were laid .

An agreement having been reached with the Divisional Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, it was decided that the usual test baiting of sewer manholes need not be carried out this year; but as a precautionary measure a new section was test baited through 14 manholes, with no takes.

## HOUSING

During the year under review you built 19 houses and bungalows, and you have now provided a total of 1,195 dwellings, comprised of:

4 Bedroomed Houses ....	48
3 Bedroomed Houses ....	1063
2 Bedroomed Houses ....	6
3 Bedroomed Flats ....	4
2 Bedroomed Flats ....	22
1 Bedroomed Flats ....	12
Aged Persons' Bungalows ....	40
<hr/>	
	1195
<hr/>	

The following is a summary of the position of your various housing schemes at 31st December, 1960:

	TOTAL NO. OF HOUSES TO BE ERECTED	NO. OF HOUSES ERECTED AND OCCUPIED AT 31.12.60	NO. OF HOUSES IN COURSE OF CONSTRUCTION AT 31.12.60	NO. OF HOUSES PROPOSED TO BE ERECTED
Backford ....	23	23	—	—
Barrow ....	48	48	—	—
Capenhurst ....	22	22	—	—
Christleton ....	122	122	—	—
Dodleston ....	35	35	—	—
Dunham Hill ....	56	56	—	—
Elton ....	24	24	—	—
Great Boughton ....	155	85	27	43
Guilden Sutton ....	46	34	—	12
Hapsford ....	6	6	—	—
Huntington ....	58	58	—	—
Lea-by-Backford ....	8	8	—	—
Lea Newbold ....	2	2	—	—
Littleton ....	24	24	—	—
Little Stanney ....	6	6	—	—
Lower Kinnerton ....	10	10	—	—
Mickle Trafford ....	42	42	—	—
Mollington ....	10	10	—	—
Pulford ....	26	8	—	18
Saughall ....	262	244	18	—
Shotwick ....	2	2	—	—
Stoak ....	34	25	—	9
Thornton-le-Moors ....	22	22	—	—
Upton-by-Chester ....	355	261	—	94
Wimbolds Trafford ....	14	14	—	—
Woodbank ....	4	4	—	—
	<hr/> 1416	<hr/> 1195	<hr/> 45	<hr/> 176

Once again I am indebted to your Architect, Mr. T. C. R. Eaton, and his staff for their assistance in compiling these figures.

Continuing your Clearance programme, 21 houses were submitted and approved for action under section 16 to 26 of the Housing Act, 1957, and 3 were dealt with under section 9, whilst 2 undertakings were revoked under section 27.

The 12 houses referred to in my last year's report as comprising a Clearance Area in Guilden Sutton, have by common consent been reduced to 10, and you are investigating the possibility of purchasing the properties and site concerned with a view to its ultimate re-development.

## Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:

1. (1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	792
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	2157
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 (Rural Housing Survey) ....	Nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ....	21
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ....	142
2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices:	
Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers ....	142
Action under Statutory Powers during the year:	
(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 16 and 42 of the Housing Act, 1957 ....	24
Rent Act, 1957 (Disrepair) ....	3
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs:	
(a) By owners ...	2
(b) By local authority in default of owners	1
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ....	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices:	
(a) By owners ...	Nil
(b) By local authority in default of owners	Nil

## Rent Act, 1957

Three applications for certificates of disrepair were received. In two cases it was decided not to issue such certificates, whilst in one case it was decided to issue a certificate in respect of some but not all of the defects, and in respect of which an undertaking was given by the landlord under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule. One application for cancellation of the certificate was received and approved.



**Discretionary and Standard Grants**

During 1960 you approved 17 applications for Discretionary Grants totalling £4,338.0.0 made under the Housing Act, 1949, whilst under the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, you approved 16 applications for Standard Grants to a total value of £1,520.0.0.

**Town and Country Planning and Building By-laws**

During the year, 225 plans were submitted under the Town and Country Planning Acts, of which 184 were approved, and 330 plans were submitted under the Building By-laws, of which 225 were approved: the drainage was dealt with in 21 cases by Septic Tank treatment, and 204 were connected to the public sewers.

I am grateful to your Surveyor, Mr. C. Bridge, for the above information, and indebted to his staff for their ready co-operation.

**INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD**

**Food and Drugs Act, 1955**

**Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959**

Under these regulations it is no longer necessary for a Retailer of Milk whose premises are situate outside your district to be registered with this authority provided his premises are already registered with the authority in whose district are situated the premises from which he conducts his business and on which the milk is kept. The following licences were issued in 1960.

Registered Dairies ....	11
Distributors ....	22
Dealers' Licences (Pasteurised and Sterilised) ....	23
Dealers' Licences (Tuberculin Tested) ....	17
Dealers' Licences Supplementary (Pasteurised and Sterilised ....	7
Dealers' Licences Supplementary (Tuberculin Tested)	4
	<hr/>
	84
	<hr/>

**Ice Cream**

There are not any manufacturers of Ice Cream in your district, but 64 premises have been registered for the sale and storage of Ice Cream, mainly of the pre-packed variety.

**Prepared Foods**

Certificates of registration of persons and premises as suitable for the preparation of food have been issued in respect of 13 premises, which are visited at irregular intervals, and in respect of which it has been necessary to issue fifteen informal notices and one statutory notice.

Contrary to expectations expressed in my report last year, the Broiler system of feeding and preparing poultry has not increased; in fact, two such premises have ceased to employ this system.

**Brucella Abortus** in cattle is prevalent in certain areas and a lot of time and patience has had to be given over to tracing the affected cattle at a few farms in your district, which in some instances have come to light on the notification of cases of suspected Undulant Fever.

In cases where there appears to be a recurrence of this infection, it would be advantageous for all the milk produced to be heat treated either for pasteurisation or sterilisation until a clean bill of health for the cattle is secured, but it would appear that avoidance of re-infection is a matter that is presenting some concern.

### Meat and Other Foods Inspection

The report called for by the Minister under the Slaughterhouses Hygiene Regulations was submitted, and in it were embodied reports on five slaughterhouses, two of which were to become obsolete, and three to be brought up to the required standard. In two cases the necessary alterations and improvements are well in hand.

Slaughtering in your area would appear to be declining in numbers, but the irregularity of the hours does not improve, and the Public Health Inspector has to endure considerable inconvenience, and invariably is unable to enjoy the benefits of the Bank Holidays, as these periods seem to be chosen for slaughter: such is life, and after all, service to the public is the uppermost desire of the Inspectorate.

The following is the summary of Meat and Other Foods inspection carried out during 1960:

MEAT INSPECTION	SHEEP AND				TOTAL
	BEASTS	CALVES	LAMBS	PIGS	
Number slaughtered ....	1,136	36	6,660	2,279	10,111
Number inspected ....	1,136	36	6,660	2,279	10,111
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis:					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	6	3	1	10
Carcasses of which part or organ was condemned ....	482	2	676	552	1,712
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ....	42.4%	22.2%	10.5%	24.2%	



MEAT INSPECTION	BEASTS	CALVES	SHEEP AND LAMBS	PIGS	TOTAL
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	1
Carcases of which part or organ was condemned ....	20	Nil	Nil	47	67
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ....	1.8%	—	—	2.06%	

### Cysticercosis

Carcases of which part or organ was condemned ....	5	—	—	—	5
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ....	5	—	—	—	5
Generalised and totally condemned ....	—	—	—	—	—

Meat—Total weight condemned: 3 tons 4 cwts. 1 qr. 4 lbs.

Other Foods condemned: 60 lbs. Minced Shin Beef; 30 lbs. Fore Ribs; 60 lbs. Flank Rib; 40 lbs. Shoulder Steak. Tinned Goods: 54 lbs. Cooked Ham; 34¼ lbs. Stewing Steak; 1 x 6 lbs. Corned Beef; 1 x 10 ozs. Garden Peas; 1 x 10 ozs. Carrots; 2 x 14 lbs. Peeled Tomatoes.

### Food Sampling

List of samples for analysis obtained in the Chester Rural District during the year ended 31st December, 1960:

NAME OF SAMPLE	NUMBER OBTAINED	NUMBER ADULTERATED OR NOT UP TO THE RECOGNISED STANDARD OF QUALITY
Aspirin Tablets ....	2	—
Baking Powder ....	1	—
Butter ....	1	—
Cheese ....	3	—
Cream (Sterilised) ....	2	—
Fish Paste ....	1	—
Flour (Plain) ....	1	—
Gin ....	2	—
Ice Cream ....	1	—
Iced Lolly ....	1	—
Jelly (Table) ....	1	—
Lemon Cheese ....	1	—
Marmalade ....	2	—
Margarine ....	1	—
Milk ....	39	5
Milk (Condensed) ....	2	—
Olive Oil ....	1	—
Orange Crush ....	2	—

Pepper ....	1	—
Potted Beef ....	1	—
Potted Salmon and Butter ....	1	—
Quip ....	1	—
Salad Cream ....	2	—
Vinegar ....	1	—
Whisky ....	1	—
	<hr/> 72	<hr/> 5

### Particulars of Samples not up to Standard :—

		Result of Analysis.		Remarks.
No. Sample.	Sub-standard but genuine milk.			
1. Milk	1.1% deficient in Solids-not-fat.	Retail.	No action	
2. Milk	3.5% deficient in Solids-not-fat.	Retail.	No action	
3. Milk	1.1% deficient in Solids-not-fat.	Retail.	No action	
4. Milk	1.1% deficient in Solids-not-fat.	Retail.	No action	
5. Milk	1.1% deficient in Solids-not-fat.	Retail.	No action	

### Public Health Matters

During the year, as the result of the coming into operation of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, a considerable amount of time has been devoted to the inspection and preparation of reports on the various caravan sites in the area, and as a result of the survey, 34 different sites were inspected, having a total of 142 caravans.

The attention of all the site occupiers was drawn to the need to apply on the prescribed form within the stated period outlined in the Act for a site licence, and 30 such applications were received, all of which have been passed to the local Planning Authority for a decision in respect of planning permission. Where this is given, it is obligatory on the local authority to issue the site licence, subject to such conditions as the local authority may consider necessary. In this respect you have decided to adopt the Model Standards issued by the Minister of Housing and Local Government with minor modifications.

It is gratifying to note that the owner of one of the largest sites in this area has already had a considerable amount of work carried out to make his site comply with the conditions set out in the site licence.

In so far as Fire Fighting equipment is concerned, the County Fire Brigade have agreed to co-operate, and they are notified of all site licences applied for; and in company with one of your inspectors they visit the site and discuss the site area, the number of caravans involved and the supply of water available. On this information the Chief Fire Officer then makes his recommendations, which are invariably incorporated in the conditions of the licence. At this point I would like to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to the Chief Fire Officer for his ready and willing co-operation in this matter.

**Complaints**

The policy of informal action in dealing with complaints, which are wonderful and varied, has again continued to operate satisfactorily; this is reflected in the very small number of statutory notices which have had to be served. The following table gives an indication of the results achieved by this method :

Defective drains ....	39
Ditches and Watercourses ....	27
Private Tips ....	3
Filthy premises ....	2
Offensive accumulations ....	4
Closet Conversions ....	11
Emissions of dark smoke ....	5

As may be expected in a Rural area, the unsatisfactory condition of a number of ditches and watercourses is from time to time brought to the notice of the department. This is one of the most difficult problems to deal with, owing to the number of land owners or occupiers involved. It is, however, pleasing to record that in spite of the difficulties, considerable improvement has been achieved.

Following up notifications of Infectious Diseases other than Tuberculosis, inquiries were made in respect of the following notifications :

Scarlet Fever ....	9
Food poisoning ....	4
Dysentery ....	2
Diphtheria ....	1
Meningo-coccal Infection ....	1

It is interesting to note that the case of Diphtheria was notified on clinical diagnosis only, and was not confirmed bacteriologically.

**INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES**

**Prevalence of and control over Infectious and other diseases**

The following notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis) were notified during the year :

	TOTAL CASES CASES ADMITTED		
	NOTIFIED	TO HOSPITAL	DEATHS
Pneumonia ....	2	—	—
Food Poisoning ....	4	—	—
Scarlet Fever ....	9	—	—
Measles ....	163	—	—
Whooping Cough ....	27	—	—
Dysentery ....	2	—	—

Diphtheria ....	1	—	—
Meningo-coccal Infection....	1	1	—
	<hr/> 209	<hr/> 1	<hr/> —

## TUBERCULOSIS

### New Cases and Mortality during the year 1960

Age Periods	NEW CASES					DEATHS				
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Total	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Total
	M	F	M	F	M & F	M	F	M	F	M & F
Unde 5 yrs.	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5-14 yrs.	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15-24 yrs.	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
25-44 yrs.	2	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	1
45-64 yrs.	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
65 yrs. & over	1	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	1
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ....	8	2	—	—	10	1	1	—	—	2

## FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

### Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority ....	15	69	—	—
(2) Factories not in- cluded in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ....	63	76	—	—
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out- workers' premises)	74	43	—	—
Totals ....	<hr/> 152	<hr/> 188	<hr/> —	<hr/> —

Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred		No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	21	21	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	—	—	—	—	—
(a) insufficient ....	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act ....	—	—	—	—	—
Total ....	22	22	—	—	—

PART VIII of the Act — OUTWORK  
(Sections 110 and 111)

NATURE OF WORK	NUMBER OF OUT- WORKERS IN AUG. LIST REQUIRED BY SECTION 110 (1) (c)
Wearing apparel (Making, etc.) Cleaning and Washing ....	1



CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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South-West Cheshire Divisional Health  
Committee

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# ANNUAL REPORT

## 1960

Dr. WALTER J. BIRCHALL M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.  
*(Divisional Medical Officer)*

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16. WHITE FRIARS  
CHESTER

TELEPHONE: CHESTER 20071 (2 lines)



# ANNUAL REPORT ON HEALTH SERVICES OF SOUTH-WEST CHESHIRE DIVISION FOR THE YEAR 1960

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The Division includes the Borough of Ellesmere Port and the Rural Districts of Chester and Tarvin. The total population at 1st April, according to the Registrar General's latest figures (mid 1959), is 82,200, and the area is 115,548 acres.

With the great majority of children inoculated against poliomyelitis, and in spite of the extension of eligibility up to 40 years of age, the numbers of persons applying for inoculation declined during the year and has now reached a routine maintenance level, chiefly in connection with new born babies.

Details of the work of the Ambulance Service are included in the Report. It will be recalled that radio operational control of the Service was taken over from the Divisional Committee by the Central County Health Department on January 1st, 1960, and full administrative control on 1st April.

Both the Domestic Help Service and the recently introduced Chiropody Service for elderly persons continue to expand and fulfil a valuable and much appreciated social need especially for the older age groups.

Measles was the chief Infectious Disease notified and showed a small increase over the previous year, due in the main to a sharp rise in the number of cases in the Borough of Ellesmere Port in the Autumn of 1960.

It will be noted that there is an appreciable reduction in the number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register for the year 1960. This is mainly due to a comprehensive investigation of cases which had been on the register for a number of years, and were found to have been cured or to have left the district.

WALTER J. BIRCHALL, M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

**CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**SOUTH-WEST CHESHIRE**  
**DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE**  
**Report for Year ended 31st December, 1960**

**N.H.S. Act, 1946 (Section 22)—Care of Mothers and Young Children**

**A—Mothers' Clinics:**

	NEW CASES	TOTAL ATTENDANCES
Ante-Natal ....	419	2971
Post-Natal ....	97	181
Dental:		
Pre-Natal ....	8	9
Nursing Mothers ....	8	21
Dentures supplied ....	3	—

**Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics:**

	ANTE-NATAL		POST-NATAL	
	NEW CASES	TOTAL ATTENDANCES	NEW CASES	TOTAL ATTENDANCES
Ellesmere Port ....	326	2331	66	142
Little Sutton ....	93	640	31	39
	—	—	—	—
	419	2971	97	181
	—	—	—	—

**B—Young Children's Clinics:**

**(1) Infant Welfare—**

	NEW CASES	TOTAL ATTENDANCES
To 1 year ....	1033	9808
1—2 years ....	—	1474
2—5 years ....	—	1336

**(2) Specialist—**

Ophthalmic ....	23	58
Dental Treatment (under 5) ....	119	136
E.N.T. (under 5) ....	4	5

### (3) Day Nurseries—

	DAILY AVERAGE NO.	
	ATTEND- ING	TOTAL ATTENDANCES
Aged 0—2 years .... .	8	2028
2—5 years .... .	18½	4587

Details of figures (where they relate to more than one Clinic) are given hereunder:—

Eye Clinics—	NEW CASES	TOTAL ATTENDANCES
Hoole .... .	2	5
Ellesmere Port .... .	21	53
Totals .... .	23	58

### Welfare Centres—

	NEW CASES	TOTAL ATTENDANCES		
	0-1	0-1	1-2	2-5
Barrow .... .	16	158	47	54
Christleton .... .	60	525	205	90
Ellesmere Port .... .	376	3451	213	163
Farndon .... .	14	172	67	54
Huntington .... .	39	299	91	75
Ince .... .	18	129	33	8
Kelsall .... .	35	405	115	130
Little Sutton .... .	176	1681	142	188
Malpas .... .	28	238	89	79
Overpool .... .	74	638	25	6
Saughall .... .	50	502	88	87
Tarvin .... .	18	239	115	146
Tattenhall .... .	20	190	26	57
Upton .... .	109	1181	218	199
	<hr/> 1033	<hr/> 9808	<hr/> 1474	<hr/> 1336

### WELFARE CENTRES

The attendances at the Mothers and Young Children's Clinics throughout the Division show a slight increase over the previous year. The attendances at Mothers' Clinics being 3,082 as compared with 2,663 in 1959, and at Young Children's Clinics, 13,651, as compared with 12,868 in 1959.

The Committee approved the purchase of Linen Replacements at a cost of £53 13s. 5d. for the various clinics in the Divisional area..

## Ellesmere Port

Work on the new Welfare Centre in Stanney Lane commenced during the year, and it is anticipated that it will be ready for occupation shortly after Easter, 1961. The new Welfare Centre will be a great improvement on the existing Welfare Centre in York Road, which for many years has been overcrowded and inadequate for the area it serves. There will be facilities for Specialist Clinics which hitherto, owing to the lack of suitable accommodation, have not been possible.

On the vacation of the Welfare Centre in York Road, the premises will be adapted for use as offices, namely, Divisional Medical Officer's Offices, Mental Health Services Offices, and Citizens' Advice Bureau.

## Little Sutton

The Committee discussed the provision of a car park at this Centre, and resolved that owing to the high cost and the lease of the premises that a car park be not provided.

The hours of duty for the Cleaner were increased from 15 hours to 20 hours per week.

In order to provide a sound proof room for Child Hearing Clinics, the Committee approved the purchase of a Waverley Hair Carpet at a cost of £21 19s. 6d., and alterations to a window at a cost of £17 10s. 0d.

The Committee recommended that the Ellesmere Port Borough Council be permitted to erect a hoarding on the site of the proposed new Welfare Centre at Great Sutton, subject to such conditions as may be considered necessary by the Clerk of the County Council.

## Upton

The Committee approved the purchase of an Electric Sterilizer and an Electric Convector Heater at a cost of £16 and £6 3s. 6d. respectively.

The Committee agreed to the proposals of the County Council to the purchase of a suitable site for a future Welfare Centre at Upton, and were informed that provision for a Welfare Centre would be made as soon as possible in the Capital Building Programme.

Child Welfare Clinics are held as follows:—

Welfare Centre, York Road, Ellesmere Port.	Tuesday and Friday afternoon each week. Doctor in attendance on Tuesday only.
Welfare Centre, York Road, Ellesmere Port	Toddlers—1st Friday afternoon in each month.
Welfare Centre, 462, Chester Road, Little Sutton.	Monday afternoon each week.

Community Centre, Overpool.	1st and 3rd Thursday afternoon each month.
Village Hall, Ince.	4th Thursday afternoon each month.
Village Hall, Barrow.	1st and 3rd Wednesday afternoon each month.
Women's Institute, Christleton.	1st and 3rd Thursday afternoon each month.
Memorial Hall, Farndon.	1st and 3rd Tuesday afternoon each month.
Village Hall, Huntington.	2nd and 4th Wednesday afternoon each month.
Parish Hall, Kelsall.	1st and 3rd Tuesday afternoon each month.
Jubilee Hall, Malpas. .	1st, 3rd and 5th Monday afternoon each month.
Vernon Institute, Saughall.	1st, 3rd and 5th Monday afternoon each month.
Radcliffe's Hut, Tarvin.	2nd and 4th Wednesday afternoon each month.
Barbour Institute, Tattenhall,	1st and 3rd Monday afternoon each month.
Village Hall, Upton.	Thursday afternoon each week.

Ante-Natal Clinics are held as follows:—

Welfare Centre, York Road, Ellesmere Port..	Wednesday afternoon and Friday morning each week.
Welfare Centre, 462, Chester Road, Little Sutton.	Monday morning each week.

Midwives' Clinics and Preparation Classes are held at the Welfare Centre, 462, Chester Road, Little Sutton, on Thursday afternoons each week.

Vaccination and Immunisation Clinics are held as required.

## WELFARE FOODS

### MINISTRY AND PROPRIETARY BRANDS

The distribution of Welfare Foods continued to operate satisfactorily, largely owing to the splendid co-operation of the voluntary persons and members of the W.V.S. who have been most helpful.

The following is a summary of the number of articles issued during the year:—

#### Ministry

NATIONAL	COD	A/D	ORANGE
DRIED MILK	LIVER OIL	TABLETS	JUICE
18,137	3,795	3,326	25,840

#### Proprietary Brands

MILK FOODS	CEREAL FOODS	OTHER COMMODITIES
9,244	773	2,064



The figures overleaf show an all-round increase over the previous year. An increase of 700 tins National Dried Milk, 100 Bottles of Cod Liver Oil, 600 packets A. and D. Tablets, 600 bottles of Orange Juice, 500 Proprietary branded Milk Foods, and 300 Proprietary branded other commodities.

Ministry Welfare Foods are distributed at the following centres:—

#### **Welfare Clinics**

Ellesmere Port, Little Sutton, Overpool, Ince, Barrow, Christleton, Farndon, Huntington, Kelsall, Malpas, Saughall, Tarvin, Tattenhall, Upton.

#### **Voluntary Persons**

Churton, Duddon, Dodleston, Elton, Huxley, Malpas, Tilston, Waverton.

Proprietary Brands of Welfare Foods are issued only at the Welfare Clinics in the Divisional area.

#### **Day Nursery, Ellesmere Port.**

In December, 1959, the Day Nursery was transferred to temporary accommodation at the Hooton Park Pavilion pending the erection of a new Day Nursery in Stanney Lane, Ellesmere Port. As the temporary accommodation was smaller than hitherto, the Day Nursery was reduced to a 30-place training Day Nursery from a 50-place Nursery.

After one or two "teething troubles" both the staff and the children settled down very well at the temporary premises, and my thanks are due to the Matron for the excellent way she organised the transfer and the arrangements at the Hooton Park Pavilion. My thanks are also due to the staff at the Nursery for the splendid way in which they have assisted the Matron in the operation of the Nursery. The transport of the children by coach to and from Ellesmere Port and the Hooton Park Pavilion has, I feel, been somewhat irksome, interrupting the regular routine of the Day Nursery, and I am sure adding to their difficulties.

The attendances throughout the year have been good, averaging over the year 26½ per day; 23 per day January and February; 26 per day March; 24 per day April; 29 per day May and June; 26 per day July, August and September; and rather surprisingly, 30 per day in October, November and December.

The health of the children throughout the year has been good, apart from the winter months when quite a number of the children have had the usual winter respiratory and throat infections. They seemed to have escaped the small outbreak of chickenpox in the early months of the year and only two cases of measles were reported in the latter months of the year when Ellesmere Port was in the throes of a Measles epidemic. During the September quarter, the Medical Officer recommended that six children might benefit from a course of sunlight treatment.

Arrangements were made with the Ellesmere Port Hospital for the children concerned to attend the hospital for the necessary treatment.

Work commenced during the year on the new Day Nursery in Stanney Lane, and whilst we had hoped to occupy the new premises towards the end of 1960, it is now understood that the premises will be available for occupation about Easter, 1961.

At the close of the year there were 39 children on the register, 25 of whom were priority cases. In addition, there were 27 non-priority children on the waiting list.

### **Costs**

A comparative Statement on the costs of the Day Nursery for the financial year ended 31st March, 1960, was received from the County Treasurer, and the daily cost per child during the year was as follows:—

	ELLESMERE PORT	HOOTON PARK PAVN.
1958-59: 11/11d.	1959-60: 16/10	30/0½
Average cost throughout the County was:		
1958-59: 13/6	1959-60: 14/9	

The increase in cost for 1959-60 is due to the reduced numbers of children attending the Day Nursery, and the greater overhead costs involved in the occupancy of the temporary accommodation.

## **MIDWIFERY AND HOME NURSING**

Number of births during the year 1,657 (including 33 still-births) (adjusted for inward and outward transfers).

### **Transport**

The cars of the Ince District Nurse and the Christleton District Midwife were sold through the Measham Motor Sales Organisation for £53 0s. 6d. and £95 10s. 6d. (Nett) respectively. The Ince District Nurse has been supplied with another car, the Christleton District Midwife is using her own car.

### **Accommodation**

The house occupied by District Midwife N. Evans, of Ellesmere Port was part internally decorated at a cost of £69.

Repairs were carried out to the house occupied by the Tilston District Nurse at a cost of £45.

## **CONVALESCENCE**

The sum of £155 was allocated to the Division for the year ending 31st March, 1961, for Convalescent treatment.

Three cases were sent for convalescence during the year.

One case, an aged lady and her mentally retarded daughter, to the Lear Home of Recovery, West Kirby, for two weeks at a cost of £15.



Another case, a boy aged 11, suffering from muscular dystrophy, was sent to the Children's Convalescent Home, West Kirby, for two week at a cost of £14 7s. 0d.

The remaining case, an aged and infirm lady sent to the Lady Forrester Convalescent Home, Llandudno, for two weeks at a cost of £9 10s. 0d.

### AMBULANCE SERVICE

Radio control was introduced to the Ambulance Service towards the end of 1959, and as from the 1st January, 1960, the Central Control of the Ambulance Service supervised the operational control of vehicles and staff, and as from the 1st April, 1960, the Central Control assumed full administrative responsibility. From reports received from the County Ambulance Officer, the Radio Control has operated exceptionally well, the service is able to act more promptly on emergency cases, and undoubtedly there is a saving in time and manpower with the introduction of radio.

As far as the Ellesmere Port Ambulances are concerned, the mileage has increased from 142,037 (1959) to 164,507 (1960) the number of patients carried has also shown a corresponding increase: 16,023 (1959) to 19,756 (1960).

The following is a report from the County Ambulance Officer appertaining to the Ambulance Service operating from Ellesmere Port:—

MONTH	AMBULANCES			SITTING CASE VEHICLES		
	JOURNEYS	PATIENTS	MILEAGE	JOURNEYS	PATIENTS	MILEAGE
January ....	115	580	5731	162	763	6958
February ....	192	756	6000	142	679	5998
March ....	226	933	7594	144	808	6954
April ....	208	693	5970	137	871	6487
May ....	220	873	6680	153	1020	7316
June ....	207	854	7285	155	823	6362
July ....	219	860	6513	170	923	7469
August ....	230	893	7001	152	897	8281
September ....	112	780	6201	151	906	7485
October ....	204	574	6825	170	1000	7649
November ....	149	748	7268	194	971	9352
December ....	47	766	5858	98	785	5270
	2129	9310	78926	1828	10446	85581

The following accidents and emergencies were attended by the Ellesmere Port ambulances during the year:—

January 46, February 45, March 38, April 19, May 34, June 33, July 42, August 39, September 31, October 25, November 26, December 44. Total: 422.

## DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

The demand for the Domestic Help Service again shows a marked increase over the previous year, 185 cases were attended during the year, an increase of 31 cases. The number of cases of continued need also shows an increase over the previous year, 112 in 1960, compared with 84 in 1959.

The majority of the persons requiring domestic help are aged persons who, by reason of their age, infirmity or ill-health, require a little assistance each day, or in some cases once, twice or three times per week. The number of hours supplied varies in accordance with the need of each case. In many cases the need for domestic help is a permanent one, generally for the remainder of the patient's life. In other cases the need is a temporary one, the patient waiting to be admitted to hospital or to one of the County Council Residential Homes for the aged.

The department works in close co-operation with the hospitals and the County Welfare Department in this connection, and everything possible is done to assist the aged, infirm, and those in ill-health. Every effort is made in conjunction with the Health Visitors, to keep the costs down to a minimum without impairing the efficiency of the service.

The following is a summary of the cases of continued need at the end of the year:—

- 2 cases have had Domestic Help for 8 years.
- 1 case has had Domestic Help for 7 years.
- 1 case has had Domestic Help for 5 years.
- 5 cases have had Domestic Help for 4 years.
- 7 cases have had Domestic Help for 3½ years.
- 1 case has had Domestic Help for 3 years.
- 7 cases have had Domestic Help for 2½ years.
- 2 cases have had Domestic Help for 2 years.
- 9 cases have had Domestic Help for 1½ years.
- 22 cases have had Domestic Help for 1 year.
- 54 cases have had Domestic Help for less than 1 year.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year:—

- A. Number of new applicants, 169 (of these 43 were cancelled.
- B. Number of Domestic Helps employed at 31.12.60—69.
- C. Number of cases attended during the year — 185.
- D. Number of cases of continued need at 31.12.60 — 112.

41 cases were brought to the attention of the Committee during the year. 7 cases were defined as Future Recovery cases.

In 3 Future Recovery cases collection was deferred.

In 5 Future Recovery cases recovery of the accumulative balance was approved.

In 8 cases the debt was cancelled.

In 5 cases the assessment was reduced.

In 2 cases the engagement of a relative was approved.

In 2 cases no reduction in the assessment was made.

The assessment of 4 cases was reviewed, and two of the assessments were increased.

In 3 Future Recovery cases the Clerk of the County Council was authorised to take any necessary action to recover the accumulative balance outstanding.

1 Future Recovery case was cancelled.

In one case, where the patient refused to sign a Future Recovery Form, help was supplied and the County Treasurer was informed.

The following is a statment of amounts accruing from patients during the year, and the amount collected from patients:—

#### COLLECTION STATEMENT, Year ended December, 1960

	£	s.	d.
Arrears brought forward .....	152	13	11
Amount Accrued during year .....	1172	18	9
	<hr/>		
	£1325	12	8
Receipts during year:			
	£	s.	d.
Cash collected by D.M.O. ....	1109	0	1
Cash collected by other			
sources	72	11	10
	<hr/>		
	1181	11	11
	<hr/>		
	144	0	0
Less Cancellations and Refunds .....	24	10	0
	<hr/>		
Total Arrears carried forward .....	119	10	9
	<hr/>		
Credits brought forward .....	2	6	7
Credits carried forward .....	3	5	4



INFECTION DISEASES NOTIFIED 1960

DISTRICT	DISEASE																			
	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Measles		Pneumonia		Dysentery		Food Poisoning		Erysipelas		Acute Poliomyelitis		Diphtheria		Puerperal Pyrexia	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Ellesmere Port Municipal Borough	7	8	9	10	399	418	1	2	2	2	—	—	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	1
Chester Rural District ....	3	6	18	9	86	77	1	2	3	—	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Tarvin Rural District ....	13	21	1	—	46	52	6	3	—	—	4	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Totals ....	23	35	28	19	531	547	8	7	5	2	7	4	5	3	1	—	—	1	—	2

## PREVENTION OF ILLNESS—CARE AND AFTER-CARE

### A. Number of cases investigated in Division:—

#### (1) Tuberculosis—

(a) No. of Forms C and A.C.4 completed ....	—	28
(Primary Investigation).		
(b) No. of Forms C. and A.C.22 completed ....	—	268
(Follow-up visits)		
(c) No. of cases where patient has been found to have:—		
(a) Removed from area ....	—	87
(b) Recovered ....	—	73
(c) Died ....	—	18
(d) Colonised ....	—	1

#### (2) Other than Tuberculosis

All cases of chronic illness awaiting admission to Chronic Wards or suitable Institutions are visited regularly by Health Visitors until admission is effected.

### B. Nursing Equipment

270 articles were loaned to elderly, nursing and handicapped persons during the year.. The period of loan varies in accordance with the need, in the first instance the loan is for three months which can be extended if required. There is a deposit of 2s. 6d. or 10s. on each article (depending on the nature of the article) and in some cases (wheel-chair, commode, bed, mattress) a weekly rental is charged. Persons who are in receipt of National Assistance are not required to pay a deposit or rental. During the year income from Rentals was £70 13s. 6d.

The nursing equipment is mainly stored at the Welfare Centre, Ellesmere Port, and the following is an inventory of the various items held at the Welfare Centre (many of the items listed are out on loan).

Invalid wheel-chairs, 15; Pillows, 3; Sheets (single), 32; Sheets (draw), 26; Sheets (rubber), 30; Air rings, 11; Breast pumps, 3; Plastic bags, 6; Walking sticks, 4; Water/Air Beds, 2; Bed Pulley, 2; Back Rests, 12; Bed Pans, 35; Urinals, 25; Sputum Mugs, 2; Sputum Flasks, 12; Linen Bags, 4; Hoyer Hoist, 1; Dunlopillo Mattresses, 6; Bed Cages, 3; Nocturnal Enuresis Alarm, 2; Beds with chain and handle, 2; Inflatable toilet seat, 1; Three-legged Walking Sticks, 7; Commodes, 7; K.D. Receivers, 2; Crutches, 5 pairs.

In addition the District Nurse/Midwives each have a small stock of the smaller items: bedpans, urinals, rubber sheets, etc.



### C. Handicapped Persons.

(i) At the end of the year there were 84 cases on the handicapped persons register, many of whom were in regular employment. All cases have been visited by the Health Visitors during the year, and in the majority of cases where the person was not in regular employment the services of the County Council were not required.

(ii) Number of cases placed in employment (Disabled Persons Act)—Nil.

(iii) A Paraplegic patient was supplied with a Hoyer Hoist at a cost of £71 13s. 0d. Alterations were made to the house of a handicapped lady, to provide accommodation for an electrically propelled tricycle, at a cost of £21 16s. 9d. A hand rail was provided on the stairs of a house in Ellesmere Port to enable a spastic child to negotiate the stairs.

### D. Special Laundry Service

3 Persons required the use of this Service during the year. The scheme provides sheets (single and draw) for patients who are incontinent and are being nursed at home. The Laundry is collected by the Ambulance Service and taken to the hospital (Clatterbridge or Chester City) for laundering. A charge is made for the service in accordance with the income of the household.

During the latter part of the year, disposable underpads were introduced, and the District Nurses find them a great improvement for the bed-ridden patient.

### CHIROPODY SERVICE

The Chiropody Service commenced in October, 1959, and continued to operate satisfactorily throughout the year, the demand increasing month by month. By the 1st January, 1960, 216 applications had been received, 168 of whom were given free treatment, 10 treatment at half cost. By the end of December, 1960, a further 338 applications had been received, 278 of whom were given treatment free of charge, 10 treatment at half cost. At the close of the year there were 360 patients receiving chiropody treatment free of charge, and 14 patients receiving treatment at half cost.

The service is available to persons over the age of 65 years, physically handicapped persons and expectant mothers recommended for such treatment by their family doctor or district nurse. Persons who receive any National Assistance benefit, or whose sole income is the National retirement pension, are eligible for free treatment under the provisions of the scheme. Persons in receipt of income from other sources may have to pay towards the cost of the treatment, depending on the amount of the additional income.

The patients are allowed to choose from a list of recognised Chiropodists, the Chiropodist they wish to attend for treatment. In some cases when the patient cannot attend the Chiropodist's surgery, the Chiropodist can visit the patient at his/her home.

## MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

### NEW TRAINING CENTRE, ELLESMERE PORT

Members will be aware that a new Training Centre is in the process of being erected on the Stanney Lane site in close proximity to the new Welfare Centre and Day Nursery. It is anticipated that the Training Centre, which is for the training of mentally subnormal adults, will be completed in the Spring of 1961.

### DIVISIONAL OFFICES, CHESTER

In January, 1960, the Committee were informed that the rooms occupied by the Divisional Office in Chester were required by the Chester Rural District Council. After many months and numerous enquiries, suitable premises were found in "St. Martin's Lodge", Castle Esplanade, Chester, a little way from the present office accommodation. The adaptations required to "St. Martin's Lodge" are in hand, and it is anticipated that the Chester Divisional Office will move to the new accommodation about Easter, 1961.

### ESTIMATES, 1961-62

Estimates for the year 1961-62 were submitted, and following is a summary of the items recommended to the County Health Committee for approval and inclusion in the block estimates:—

Expenditure	£
Welfare Centres ....	4,085
Day Nursery ....	2,235
Midwifery ....	230
Health Visiting ....	40
Home Nursing ....	1,205
Vaccination and Immunisation ....	1,030
Poliomyelitis Vaccination ....	2,335
Prevention of Illness, Care and After-care ....	2,210
Domestic Helps ....	8,745
Administration ....	8,720
Payment of County Districts for Notifications of Infectious Diseases ....	250
Mental Health Service ....	4,940
	36,025

**Income**

Sale of Welfare Foods ....	1,900
Day Nurseries ....	1,700
Prevention of Illness—Nursing Equipment ....	30
Domestic Help Contributions from Patients ....	1,100
Mental Health Service ....	500
	<hr/>
	5,230
	<hr/>







